

THE
Rural District Council
OF
KING'S NORTON.

TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT
ON THE
SANITARY CONDITION
OF
THE RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT

For the Year ending December, 1896.

BY
FRANCIS HOLLINSHEAD, M.D.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

AND
PAST-PRESIDENT OF THE BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES BRANCH
OF THE SOCIETY OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH

Printed by Order of the District Council.

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Rural District Council

OF

KING'S NORTON

IN THE

COUNTY OF WORCESTER,

COMPRISING THE PARISHES OF

BEOLEY, KING'S NORTON AND NORTHFIELD.

MR. JAMES WILLIAM BRAY BROWN, CHAIRMAN.

MR. THOMAS ABRAHAM BAYLISS, VICE-CHAIRMAN.

Rural District Councillors:

Beoley Parish.

Mr. Thomas Edward Field, Church Road, Redditch.

King's Norton Parish.

KING'S NORTON WARD.

Mr. Thomas Abraham Bayliss, Thirlmere, Wheeley's Road, Edgbaston.

Mr. Aaron Jones, Glenhurst, King's Norton.

STIRCHLEY WARD.

Mr. George Talliss, 8, Bournville, Stirchley.

MOSELEY WARD.

Mr. James Botteley, Westcourt, Park Hill, Moseley.

Mr. James William Bray Brown, Glenavon, Forest Road, Moseley.

Mr. Thomas Hadley, Holly Bank Farm, Moseley.

KING'S HEATH WARD.

Mr. Edward Holmes, School Road, Moseley.

Mr. Middleton Smith Posnette, West Heath Road, King's Norton

Northfield Parish.

NORTHFIELD WARD.

Mr. Thomas Richard Bayliss, C.C., Belmont, Northfield.

SELLY OAK WARD.

Mr. Joseph Smith, Abingdon, Prospect Road Moseley.

Mr. Thomas Thompson, Selly Oak.

Clerk:

MR. EDWIN DOCKER.

Medical Officer:

FRANCIS HOLLINSHEAD, M.D.

Surveyor:

MR. AMBROSE W. CROSS, C.E.

Assistant Surveyor:

MR. T. H. WEBB.

Sanitary Inspectors:

MR. JOHN HOUGHTON, C.S.I.G.B., Moseley. MR. A. T. COTTLE, A.S.I., Selly Oak.

Meetings fourth Wednesday in every month, at 2-30 p.m., at the Union Buildings, Selly Oak, near Birmingham.

WESTON COTTAGE,

SELLY OAK,

NEAR BIRMINGHAM,

January 20th, 1897.

TO THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF KING'S NORTON.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you, as a District Council, my Third Annual Report, being my Twenty-fourth as Medical Officer of Health.

In accordance with my usual custom, I propose giving you, at the beginning of my Report, the vital statistics for the year, and from the returns furnished weekly to me by the Registrars of the district, I have to report that the total number of

BIRTHS

registered, as occurring in your district, was 1031, and the total number of

DEATHS

for the same period was 541, inclusive of 126 deaths which occurred in Public Institutions, 102 of which did not belong to your district, as follows : The Workhouse, 62 ; Rubery Hill Asylum, 33 ; The Fever Hospital, 1 ; St. Paul's Convent, 6. The total number of deaths which occurred at the Workhouse was 81, as compared with 78 for last year, the deaths in the Fever Hospital was 4, as compared with 5, all of them being due to Scarlet

Fever. The deaths in Rubery Hill Asylum and St. Paul's Convent are not connected with your district in any instance. I propose, as on former occasions, to give the different death-rates (both inclusive and exclusive of the deaths in Public Institutions), so that you may be able to form a correct estimate of the true mortality rates as applying to your district. The deaths of persons coming from other localities, and dying in Public Institutions or elsewhere, forms no real evidence of the actual death-rate.

Of the births 539 are males, 492 females; of the deaths, 277 are males, 264 females. From diseases of the zymotic class, 44 deaths have occurred, as compared with 30 for last year, 2 of which did not belong to your district, viz. : 1 death from Whooping Cough and 1 from Scarlet Fever

The foregoing figures, with a population of 38,117, which is estimated to the middle of the year 1896, and based on the census of 1891, and this estimate is under the actual number than over, but is as near as I can get at it, represents a birth-rate of 27·04 per 1000 persons living, and a death-rate of 11·51 per 1000 of the population, and zymotic death-rate of 1·1 per 1000 of the population, as compared with 29·59 per 1000 birth-rate and 12·27 per 1000 death-rate, and 0·8 per 1000 zymotic death-rate for the year 1895, and 25·34 per 1000 birth-rate, and 10·87 per 1000 death-rate, and 0·6 per 1000 zymotic death-rate for the year 1894.

The death-rate is exclusive of the deaths in Public Institutions of persons not belonging to your district, inclusive of these the death-rate is raised to 14·19, as against 14·62 for 1895.

From the foregoing figures you will observe that the birth-rate is a little lower than last year, while the death-rate is slightly decreased, the zymotic death-rate is higher than last year, but now stands at the low figure of 1·1 in 1000. In reference to the figures quoted I am pleased to say your district still stands most favourably as regards vital statistics, and reference further on in this report will bear a most satisfactory comparison with former years, and with other districts similarly situated. As far as the zymotic death-rate is concerned it continues to keep down as low as 1 in 1000, and is a striking comparison to what it was when the Sanitary Authority first commenced its work in 1872, the death-rate from these diseases then stood at over 3 in 1000. The reduction of the death-rate in this class is one of the most vital importance, and which most chiefly

concerns Sanitary administration, and consequently all our efforts are directed to lessen the number of deaths from diseases which have their origin in filth in one form or another, and are more or less preventible. General Sanitary improvements, the better housing of the people, and above all cleanliness in every particular, go a long way in diminishing the death-rate from this class of disease,

As regards the general death-rate, we cannot (as a Sanitary Council) do as much as we could wish, as many circumstances are at work which influence the death-rate of any district, or in any part of the Country. The only way we can hope to influence the general death-rate is by (in addition to Sanitary improvements) educating the public on the general laws of health, &c. Many deaths occur annually which, though not generally considered to be due to preventible causes, are mainly attributable to carelessness and ignorance. I am quite sure timely precautions and care would save many lives. I have no doubt we shall continue to lessen the general death-rate, by our action in connection with the preventible class of diseases, as it no doubt causes the public to reflect more on the question of cause and effect.

As regards the birth-rate, no doubt this is influenced to a very large extent by the prosperous state of trade or otherwise, as in times of greater prosperity the marriage rate is found to be increased. As regards your district this year the marriages are 259, a considerable increase over last year.

The following Table gives the birth-rates and death-rates, together with the zymotic death-rate for the past 10 years.

	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.
Birth-rate ...	26·49	25·18	24·34	23·13	25·97	30·70	27·90	25·34	29·59	27·04
Death-rate ...	12·71	10·23	10·61	12·01	12·36	12·52	15·35	10·87	12·27	11·51
Zymotic death-rate ...	0·94	0·55	0·7	0·73	0·77	0·7	1·03	0·6	0·8	1·1

The above figures are most favourable, as the past years will show, for the year 1896. When taken into consideration with an increased population, we may consider the statistics for the year very satisfactory.

The following figures show the birth and death-rates, and also the zymotic death-rates of the neighbouring Authorities for the past year, 1896, in order that you may make a comparison as regards your own district.

	Rural District Council of King's Norton.	Aston Rural.	Aston Manor.	Solihull Sanitary Authority	Birming- ham.
Birth-rate	27·04	22·52	31·5	21·9	32·5
Death-rate	11·51	11·95	15·4	12·5	20·4
Zymotic Death-rate...	1·1	0·97	3·5	0·97	3·5

The above figures show a favourable comparison with other Authorities

The following Table represents the births and deaths, and also the respective birth and death-rates, together with the zymotic death-rate for the four quarters of the year.

	Births.	Deaths.	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate.
First Quarter ...	211	125	21·12	13·08	1·36
Second Quarter	246	114	28·80	11·96	0·72
Third Quarter..	256	138	26·84	14·48	1·24
Fourth Quarter	318	164	33·36	19·28	1·24

The vital statistics of the above Table are inclusive of the deaths in Public Institutions not belonging to your district.

The total deaths at the different ætal periods is summarised below.

	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTALS.
Under 1 year ...	71	51	122
From 1 to 5 years ...	30	26	56
" 5 " 15 " ...	11	18	29
" 15 " 25 " ...	16	12	28
" 25 " 35 " ...	15	18	33
" 35 " 45 " ...	17	20	37
" 45 " 55 " ...	24	22	46
" 55 " 65 " ...	37	24	61
" 65 " 75 " ...	25	36	61
" 75 " 85 " ...	29	33	62
" 85 and upwards ...	2	4	6
Totals ...	277	264	541

These figures are set out minutely in Table III. of this Report.

The above figures show an increase in the number of deaths for this year of 42, the totals being 499 for 1895 and 541 for 1896, the same thing applies in the zymotic class. The deaths of children, under one year, are not so favourable, while the deaths of children from one to five years show a slight increase, the figures representing the deaths of persons dying over eighty years are about the same as last year. The births are more than last year, being 1031, as compared with 1010 for 1895. I wish to point out that while the population has much increased, the deaths are only 42 in excess of last year, while the birth rate is high.

The following Table gives the percentages of the different mortality rates among children under one and five years—their relationship to the total births and the general mortality rate.

Annual Rate of Mortality.	Deaths of children under 1 year Percentage to total deaths.	Percentage of deaths of children under 1 year to the Registered Births.	Deaths of children under five years. Percentage to total deaths.
11·51	22·55	11·73	32·90

These death-rates will be found to compare favourably with last year, and this on the face of an increased population.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

During the past year 44 deaths from this class of Disease have been registered, as follows:—Small Pox, 0 ; Scarlet Fever, 5 ; Diphtheria, 16 ; Typhoid Fever, 3 ; Measles, 7 ; Whooping Cough, 13 ; Diarrhœa, &c , 0, as compared with last year, as follows:—Small Pox, 0 ; Scarlet Fever, 5 ; Diphtheria, 10 ; Typhoid Fever, 0 ; Measles, 1 ; Whooping Cough, 12 ; Diarrhœa, 2.

The following Table shows the details of the Deaths, the Months in which they occurred, and the Localities.

Nature of Diseases.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Small Pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	...	..	...	...	1	...	...	3	...	1	...	...	5
Diphtheria ...	2	1	1	...	1	2	2	2	2	...	1	2	16
Measles ..	2	2	2	...	...	1	..	...	...	...	...	...	7
Whooping Cough ...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	1	4	2	2	13
Typhoid Fever ...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	3
Diarrhœa & Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total for Months.	5	4	4	...	4	3	2	6	4	5	3	4	44

Two of the deaths in this Table belonged to other districts, viz. : 1 case of Whooping Cough and 1 of Scarlet Fever.

Localities in which the above Deaths took place :—

	Selly Oak	King's Heath	Moseley	King's Norton	Stirchley Street	Beoley	Northfield	Rubery	The Workhouse	Fever Hospital	TOTALS.
Small Pox ...	...	..	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	5
Diphtheria ...	3	2	1	3	1	...	6	...	...	...	16
Measles ...	3	1	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	7
Whooping Cough ...	2	6	1	...	2	1	...	..	1	...	13
Typhoid Fever ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	..	3
Diarrhœa & Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS ...	11	9	2	4	4	1	7	1	1	4	44

In reference to these diseases, as compared with last year, you will observe that there is an increase of 14. The deaths were distributed pretty evenly throughout the months of the year. The diseases most fatal being Whooping Cough, Diphtheria and Measles, all being more prevalent than in previous years—though not in an epidemic form. As regards the Localities at which the deaths took place, I find Selly Oak and King's Heath rank first, while King's Norton, Northfield and Stirchley come next. Five deaths occurred in Public Institutions, viz.: The Workhouse, 1, and the Fever Hospital, 4. The number in the previous year being The Workhouse, 6, Fever Hospital, 5. The death in the Workhouse was due to Whooping Cough and Pneumonia, which supervened. The deaths in the Fever Hospital were all due to Scarlet Fever.

On further reference to this class as a whole, it is a noteworthy fact that no death occurred from Diarrhœa, while Small Pox also caused no death—a very satisfactory record. Taken as a whole, the figures in the Zymotic class will compare very favourably with former years.

I now propose to give the details connected with the various diseases in this class as they occurred during the year.

The first I have to mention is

SMALL POX,

I am pleased to be able to report that no case of Small Pox has occurred during the year.

VACCINATION RETURNS

for that part of the Union comprising the District Council of King's Norton.

Districts.	Number Born.	Number Vaccinated.	In-susceptible to Vaccination	Had Small Pox.	Dead Un-vaccinated.	Post-poned by Medical Certificate.	Removed where V.O. apprised.	Removed. Not Known	Out standing.
King's Norton	535	417	5	...	28	7	4	21	53
Beoley ...	12	11	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Northfield ...	437	304	...	...	40	12	4	29	48
Totals ...	984	732	5	...	69	19	8	50	101

ALBERT E. FLETCHER,

220, BEARWOOD ROAD,

SMETHWICK

Vaccination Officer.

King's Norton Union.

The Vaccination Return supplied to me by MR. A. E. FLETCHER, shows a very satisfactory record of work done, although many cases still remain outstanding, I am hopeful that during the present year a still further progress will be made, and that we shall in the future have very few cases of non-vaccinated children to record.

I lay great stress on this matter, as during the year, we have been favoured with a long-looked-for Report by the Royal Commission on Vaccination, after a period of seven years' enquiry. The Board of Guardians, who have the charge of administering the Vaccination Act, have been very reluctant to exercise pressure on the public, pending this Report, with the result that there has been a tendency to evade the Law on the part of a portion of the community who do not believe in its efficacy, or are afraid of some danger arising from its operation.

I have always strongly advocated the importance of vaccination as a protection against Small Pox, and have in my Reports demonstrated its value by facts coming to my knowledge, and which have been duly reported to you. I am very thankful that the Royal Commission have at last made known their opinions, and although we could have wished that their opinions would have been unanimous, and their recommendations more decided, and have left nothing that could in any way lead to differences, and moreover that nothing of a permissive nature should have been recommended. I am glad, however, that they have been able to prove that vaccination is a proper remedy against Small Pox, and recommend its continuance.

I think this is conclusive testimony of its value after the many years that it has been in operation, and moreover after so many years of exhaustive enquiry. In a Report of this kind I do not consider it advisable to go into details, but I think it right to say that if vaccination is good for the public, and a protection against one of the most dreadful diseases that human beings are liable to, it ought to be made compulsory on all alike. I have no faith in permissive legislation, and the public ought not to be the judges of its value, as they are not in a position to know its true value, but simply object on "sentiment" because of some imaginary danger which occupies their minds.

As regards the manner of carrying out the operation, probably some further arrangements may be made by the Government, which may further

satisfy the wishes of the people. But I very much question if any real improvement can be made in the present system. The Local Government Board have most strenuously insisted on arm to arm vaccination, and I must say that I think it the best method, and I come to this conclusion after an experience of over 25 years,—all that is wanted is care in the selection of the Lymph, and an observance of the rules laid down. The use of Calf-Lymph is all very well, but my experience is that it is very uncertain in its action, and also that its activity is very often diminished, whereas in arm to arm vaccination you can always obtain the results wished for, as the Lymph is used in its active form. I am convinced that there is a tendency to under-vaccinate than otherwise, in order to satisfy the wishes of the people, and moreover many people go to Medical Men to have their children vaccinated as little as possible, by having only one mark put on the arm. I am sorry to say this but it is only too true. The public little think what a mistake they are making, and so long as this practice continues it will have a great tendency to damage the value of its utility in their eyes. I consider the time has come for an alteration in the Law in this respect, so that the people themselves shall not be able to choose how many marks shall be made, but that there shall be a record in every case of the insertions made and the results obtained. All Public Vaccinators do this, and record it for the use of the Government, and the same thing should apply to all Medical Practitioners. I am convinced the public only want to know the true value of vaccination and its freedom from danger to obtain their consent and co-operation in the working of the Law respecting it.

SCARLET FEVER.

I have received 306 notifications of this disease during the year, as compared with 142 for last year, from the following localities:—Selly Oak, 65; Selly Park, 15; Tenacres, 24; Northfield, 7; Woodgate, 2; Moor Street, 1; Bartley Green, 3; and the Cottage Homes, 11, for the Parish of Northfield. King's Heath, 56; Moseley, 54; Stirchley Street, 40; King's Norton, 12; Wythall, 2; West Heath, 1; Drake's Cross, 1; Rednall, 5; Holly Wood, 2; Moseley Hall Convalescent Home, 1; The Fever Hospital, 3, for the Parish of King's Norton; and Beoley, 4, for the Parish of Beoley.

You will observe there is a large increase in the cases from this disease, as compared with the previous year. I am pleased to say, however, that at no time of the year has it assumed an epidemic form, the cases have

been pretty well distributed over the months of the year. The months chiefly affected being February, May, July, August, September and October. Although there is a larger number of cases, the deaths are the same as last year, which must be considered very satisfactory.

As regards the distribution of the disease,—Selly Oak, Selly Park, Tenacres, Stirchley Street, King's Heath and Moseley were the localities mostly affected, while 11 cases occurred at the Shenley Fields Cottage Homes, and one from the Moseley Hall Convalescent Home. The cases from the Cottage Homes were a continuation of those reported in my last Annual Report, they were of a very mild type, and all of them did well. As regards the case at the Convalescent Home, the child was admitted there from the City of Birmingham, in a desquamating stage, fortunately no further spread of the disease took place, the patient was immediately sent on to your Fever Hospital.

In reference to the large number of cases this year, I wish to point out that this disease has been very prevalent all the year in the City of Birmingham, and its neighbourhood, and when we take into consideration the large and increasing population of your district, and its close proximity to the City, we may be thankful that we have not had a greater number to deal with. I attribute, however, our success, as regards the small mortality from this malady, as compared with the cases, to the large number removed into your Fever Hospital.

Of the 306 cases notified, no less than 276 were removed to your Hospital, with a mortality of only four; as compared with 142 cases notified last year, and 129 admissions, with five deaths, so that with more than double the number of cases we had less deaths. It is a noteworthy fact that while 30 cases remained under treatment at their homes, one death occurred, as compared with 276 treated in Hospital with four deaths.

The foregoing figures give a percentage of deaths in the Hospital of 1.44, as compared with 3.1 for 1895, a very satisfactory record

This disease is one, if not the most important, of the zymotics, on account of its prevalence and infectiveness, and occupies more attention than any other, and in recognition of this fact, Isolation Hospitals have been erected for the reception and treatment of the cases. I am pleased to know that you have established, for some years, a well appointed Fever Hospital, and I am also gratified to report so many people availing them-

selves of its advantages. The principle of isolating infectious diseases has become a matter of great importance, if the infection is to be controlled, and the spread of the disease prevented, and this fact is becoming now more generally recognised. As far as your district is concerned I have made it my object to educate the people up to the importance of Hospital treatment in all cases of Scarlet Fever, so that I now have very little trouble as compared with some few years ago, in getting most of our cases isolated. The importance of this cannot be too highly appreciated and encouraged, as I am convinced, hundreds of cases of this disease are annually prevented, and many lives saved. I am fully aware that it has caused an additional expenditure, but the public may rest assured that they get good value for the money expended.

I may add, in concluding this subject, that it is a noteworthy fact, that when cases of Scarlet Fever are removed to Hospital early, the disease does not spread further, but when they are treated at home, most of the household are attacked, as isolation is practically impossible in a private house.

I also wish to say that after cases have been treated in a Fever Hospital, it is very desirable that they should be sent to some Convalescent Home before their return home. I mention this because occasionally cases of Fever occur after the discharge of a patient to their home, no matter how careful you are before their discharge. In ordinary Hospitals we have not sufficient accommodation to enable us to set apart a building for such a purpose.

What I think most desirable is a Sanatorium for the whole County, where patients could be sent from all Infectious Hospitals within the County, erected in some convenient position, and supported pro rata by the various Authorities. I consider such an Institution would be a great blessing to the community, in further restoring the health of the patients, and also preventing the spread of disease. This may be thought an extravagant suggestion, I feel quite sure it would not prove to be so in the end.

DIPHTHERIA.

I have to record 16 deaths from this disease, against 10 for last year. I have received 59 notifications, as compared with 31 for 1895. The cases reported occurred at the following localities: Moseley, 4; Selly

Oak, 11 ; King's Heath, 6 ; King's Norton, 4 ; The Cotteridge, 6 ; Stirchley Street, 4 ; Northfield, 21 ; West Heath, 2 ; Selly Park, 1. The deaths from this disease, occurred as follows : Northfield, 6 ; Selly Oak, 3 ; King's Norton and the Cotteridge, 3 ; Moseley, 1 ; Stirchley Street, 1 ; King's Heath, 2

The mortality from this disease is still much larger than in the previous year, and also the number of cases notified. The percentage of deaths, however, shows a slight decrease in proportion to the cases reported.

In reference to the distribution of the malady, the cases have occurred pretty well uniformly throughout the year, and at no time could the disease be considered to be in an epidemic form. The localities chiefly affected have been Northfield and Selly Oak, while Moseley, King's Heath, King's Norton, The Cotteridge and Stirchley Street figure next

In connection with the causation of the larger number of cases which came under notice, I have to report that there were no particular reasons to account for the increase, we have the fact before us that the increased numbers did not apply to our district in particular, but we find recorded that Diphtheria was prevalent pretty well throughout the Country, and in Birmingham a very large increase was recorded, so much was the increase in the City mentioned, that a good deal of comment was made in the public press, and a conference subsequently held, of medical men and others, with a view of devising the best means of coping with the outbreak, so that under these circumstances, it is not to be wondered that we should have our share of the cases, seeing that we are in close proximity with the City. I am bound, however, to make mention of one part of our district, viz. : Northfield, where 6 deaths occurred, and 21 cases were reported. I consider this an excessive number as compared with other parts of the district, as Northfield is only a small village compared with some others. I am pleased to say, however, that the disease was distributed throughout the year, and at no time could it be said to be in the form of an epidemic, although the cases were certainly in excess in some months of the year, as will be seen by the returns. I made careful investigations into the cause of all the cases coming under my observation, and where sanitary defects were discovered they were at once remedied.

As regards the village of Northfield, a good many complaints were made as to the offensive smells arising from the man holes of the sewers,

and on my inspection, I found there was certainly ground for the complaints, as a good deal of deposit of offensive sewage matter, mixed with road detritus, was discovered in two parts of the sewage system, owing to the gradient being too slow, and consequently not self-cleansing. As a result of my inspection, I advised more frequent flushing, and suggested that your surveyor should make further enquiries, and report, with a view to a remedy where any structural defects existed.

I also made an inspection of the sanitary condition of the schools and domestic offices, in order to ascertain if any sanitary defects existed there. I found that the old privy and midden system was still in existence there, and on my visit they were in a very defective condition, the ashpits were deep and allowed a large accumulation of excrementitious matter to remain for a long period, which naturally undergoes decomposition and becomes offensive, and consequently dangerous to the health of the children using them. I therefore caused them to be charged with quick-lime, after being emptied, and further recommended that they, the privies, should be converted into water-closets, and the deep ashpits filled up to the ground level.

As regards the incidence of Diphtheria, insanitary dwellings, offensive accumulations, sewer emanations, and moreover dampness accompanied with foul earth near and around houses, plays a very important part in the production of the disease,—while the medium of public schools, assists, to a very large extent, in its propagation. I feel quite satisfied in my own mind, that many cases of simple sore throat, are passed over as of no importance, and undergo no treatment at all, and are allowed to return to school (even if they stay away) without any precaution being taken whatever, and these cases are the innocent medium of propagating the disease to others, and when once in a school, there is no knowing how long it may remain before it is eradicated, with this view in mind I caused the schools during the summer vacation, to be fumigated by your sanitary inspector.

Much has been said as regards the treatment of this dreadful malady, during the past few years, and a new departure has been adopted by the introduction of a new remedy called “Antitoxin,” which is injected under the skin. This remedy is considered to be an antidote for the microbic poison of the disease, and so far has been reported on most favourably, and I am bound to say that my own experience bears out this favourable opinion. Whether this method is quite perfect remains to be seen,

but there is no doubt that so far it has fully justified its remarkable power. I consider therefore every encouragement should be given to its use, as by the ordinary treatment by medicine, &c., the medical profession have not been able to cope with the disease as satisfactorily as could be desired, as the mortality has always been very high. I therefore consider there is a big future for this mode of dealing with this disease.

TYPHOID FEVER.

During the year 3 deaths have occurred, as compared with none for last year. I have had 6 cases notified, as compared with 8 for last year, as follows: Selly Oak, 2; Moseley, 1; Stirchley Street, 1; Northfield, 2. The cases were distributed uniformly throughout the year, and could not in any way be proved to be connected with each other. While it is satisfactory to note that two cases less have been reported, the mortality is much higher, this is due, however, to the more severe type of the disease. In every case notified, the premises have been inspected and any sanitary defects remedied. The water has also been analysed, and if found defective or bad, has been rectified, either by cleansing the well, or City Corporation water put on.

So far as this disease is concerned, I consider the figures favourable for your district. In one case of death at Selly Oak you were threatened with an action at Law through an alleged defective drain, but I was able to prove that this had no connection with the cause of death, so the matter ended.

MEASLES

During the year, so far as can be gleaned, 250 cases have occurred, compared with 120 for last year. As this disease is not notifiable in your district, I cannot vouch for the accuracy of the numbers, but it may be taken for granted, that quite this number has occurred. The mortality from this cause has, however, been very light in comparison with the cases which have occurred.

This disease was most prevalent in the early part of the year, (January), at Selly Oak, and I caused the schools to be closed. In February it again became very prevalent and the schools were again closed.

An outbreak also occurred at Wythall and Rubery, in February, and the schools in these villages were closed for a period of three weeks, a

private school at Moseley was also closed in consequence of a case, some cases also occurred at the Workhouse. The disease gradually declined and in May practically disappeared, the type of the malady was not on the whole severe, and the mortality, as you will observe, was light

The disease known as German Measles, appeared in various parts of your district in June, and I had several consultations with medical men in the district, in reference to some of the cases. The malady disappeared without any mortality.

This disease causes a good deal of trouble and anxiety in consequence of its similarity to mild cases of Scarlet Fever

In reference to the question of notifying cases of Measles, much has been said bearing upon the subject, while I consider it very desirable to have correct data of all cases of infectious disease occurring, I fail to see any real advantage to be gained in making it notifiable, unless you can take some effective measures to cope with it, and so prevent the further spread of the malady, at present we have no means of isolating cases of this nature

WHOOPIING COUGH.

We have to record 13 deaths from this disease, as compared with 12 for the previous year, 2 for the Parish of Northfield, 9 for the Parish of King's Norton, 1 for Beoley Parish, and 1 in the Workhouse at Selly Oak.

With the exception of Diphtheria, Whooping Cough has caused more deaths than any of the zymotic diseases. I am pleased to say, however, that only 1 death in excess of last year is recorded.

This malady is not notifiable in your district, and I cannot therefore give you reliable details as regards the number of cases which have occurred. I can only say that it has been very prevalent during the year, and has been distributed pretty uniformly throughout the district. As I have previously mentioned, in my Annual Reports, this disease is looked upon by the public generally as a trifling ailment and one that all children must have sooner or later, and very little care is taken to guard against its infectiveness, I am not surprised at this, as very little good can be done beyond keeping the children away from school, and this proceeding is very irksome to the parents, and many children are sent who are not free from the complaint. The consequence is that the malady is often originated and generally propagated through the medium of public schools.

While this disease is not in itself so fatal a malady as it appears to be, the complications which arise, viz : Bronchitis and Pneumonia, are very fatal in their effect, and these acute and serious diseases are the common results of Whooping Cough, and are brought about in many cases through ignorance, and in others through carelessness and neglect, on the part of parents, by allowing their children to be exposed in the open air, often in inclement weather, while passing through the stages of the complaint.

The only means of coping with this malady, is by keeping all children away from the public schools during the period of infection, and further by educating the public on the management of the disease, and the general care necessary, which is so essential a feature in preventing the complications mentioned.

DIARRHŒA.

No death has been caused during the year, as compared with 2 for the previous one.

This disease may be a very serious one and frequently causes many deaths. We find cases of this nature usually occur at certain periods of the year, more particularly in the very hot weather, and also the decline of the summer. Many factors are always at work, and also many diseases, which contribute to this disease, but true Diarrhœa is due to some fermentative influence, caused either by atmospheric changes, or from articles of food taken, which are not in a sound condition. This malady is also common in young children, and is due more to errors of diet than anything else.

CHOLERA.

We still keep free from any cases of this dreaded disease, our Country is fortunately favoured in this respect, and I trust we may continue to keep free from it.

This malady is a very fatal one, and usually occurs in Countries less favoured than our own. Insanitary defects, causing the atmosphere and water supply to be deleteriously affected, are the main factors in the production of this disease.

We have, during the past few years, being threatened with a visitation of the disease from other Countries, but thanks to our climate and the great precautions taken, we have been kept comparatively free from it.

INFLUENZA.

I am pleased to say we have not had a visitation of this disease to any extent, and the cases which have occurred have been of a very modified nature to what we have previously had. I may say, that so far as your district is concerned, we have not had any true typical cases of this malady as recognised when it first made its appearance several years ago.

The cases which have occurred in your district, have been the usual form of influenza colds, common to this Country.

Let us hope we may continue free from this peculiar and dreadful malady, so fatal on its first appearance to this Country.

COMPULSORY NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year I have received 412 Notifications, as compared with 226 for last year, and 250 for 1894, you will observe there is a considerable increase as compared with previous years. While this is a regrettable fact to recognise, we have to bear in mind that a very much larger number of cases of Infectious Disease have been recorded more or less all over the Country. Birmingham has been very much affected during the past year, Diphtheria, and Scarlet Fever being very prevalent.

Particulars of the cases notified will be found in the Table, on this subject, in the Report.

The chief points to be observed in reference thereto, is the increase in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria, which have been specially mentioned.

As regards the working of this Act, I am pleased to be able to record that it has been most satisfactory throughout the year, and I have had very little to complain of, and legal proceedings have been found necessary in two cases only, and as far as I can ascertain, every case occurring has been notified and recorded.

The Notification Act is of a dual nature, making it incumbent on both parents and medical practitioners to notify, so far as the latter are concerned, the Act has been complied with, but the parents do not recognise their responsibility, either from ignorance of the Law, or by allowing the responsibility to rest on the doctor, consider they have done all that is required of them, so far this has worked satisfactorily, but in cases where

no doctor is called in, it assumes a very different aspect, and the responsibility rests with the parents. We have had occasion to summon parents before the Magistrates, for breaches of the Law in this respect, with the object of bringing them to a knowledge of its provisions; and we have again had to do so in two cases this year. I think good results have followed, although a large proportion of parents still fail to notify. But as regards the medical men I have no cause to complain.

In further reference to this matter, I have to say that I have been called in by medical men in the district to assist in the diagnosis of doubtful cases of Infectious Disease (as many cases exist) before their removal to Hospital. I have always complied with the request, and I may say in concluding this part of my Report, our united co-operation has been attended with the best results, and I wish further to add that the medical profession in the district continue to act in the most loyal manner towards me.

The following Table shows the localities where the cases occurred :

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES TABLE.

DISEASE.	Fever Hospital.	Selly Oak.	Moseley.	Selly Park.	Tenacres.	Stirchley Street.	King's Heath.	King's Norton.	Northfield.	Cottage Homes.	Cotteridge.	Beoley.	Rednal.	Holly Wood	Bartley Green.	Moor Street.	Woodgate &c.	Moseley Hall Convalescent Home	Wythall.	West Heath.	Drakes Cross.	TOTAL.
Scarlet Fever ...	3	65	56	24	15	40	54	12	7	11	4	1	5	2	3	..	2	1	..	1	..	30
Diphtheria ...	..	11	4	1	..	4	6	4	21	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	59
Typhoid Fever ...	..	2	1	..	..	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	68
Membranous Croup	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Erysipelas ...	..	8	4	2	2	3	3	3	4	..	1	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	34
Puerperal Fever ...	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Small Pox ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
TOTALS ...	3	86	65	27	18	51	64	20	34	11	11	4	5	2	3	1	2	1	2	1	1	41

INFECTIOUS DISEASES PREVENTION ACT.

Under this Act much good work has been done during the year. Forms have been drawn up, and in all cases of Scarlet Fever, when treated at home, have been made returnable to the Sanitary Inspectors when the patients have reached the convalescent stage, by this means, as also in

several other diseases, we are enabled to see that fumigation and cleansing of the premises has been properly carried out

I consider this Act, from many points of view, a great help in our Sanitary Work.

SYNOPSIS OF THE MONTHLY REPORTS.

During the year I have reported fully to you every month on the vital statistics, and all other matters of importance requiring your attention and direction. The following being a summary of such reports.

IN JANUARY.—Birth-rate 27·67, Death-rate 12·2, Zymotic Death-rate 1·2.

Notifications 23 : Scarlet Fever, 15 ; Diphtheria, 5 ; Erysipelas, 3 ; Special mention was made of the Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria cases, also of an outbreak of Scarlet Fever at Cottage Homes, Shenley Fields, and the Moseley Hall Convalescent Home. An outbreak of Measles occurred at Selly Oak, and the schools were closed. A Report on a piece of land used as a “Tip,” in Poplar Road, King’s Heath. I also reported the result of my inspection of the effluent from the various works in the district, bearing reference to the pollution of the streams in the district. Hospital report—12 cases of Scarlet Fever admitted, 6 discharged cured, leaving 27 under treatment.

IN FEBRUARY.—Birth rate 25·51, Death-rate 13·33, Zymotic Death-rate 1·14

Notifications 26 : Scarlet Fever, 22 ; Diphtheria, 2 ; Erysipelas, 2. The Scarlet Fever cases occurred, for the most part, at Moseley and King’s Heath, in the former place the schools were closed, the cases at the Cottage Homes increased, and the schools were closed, Measles very prevalent at Selly Oak and Moseley, schools closed. Hospital cases—24 cases of Scarlet Fever admitted, 13 discharged cured, leaving 41 under treatment. The question of increased Accommodation for Nurses reported upon.

IN MARCH.—Birth-rate 30·47, Death-rate 9·61, Zymotic Death-rate 0·72.

Notifications : 37 : Scarlet Fever 28 cases ; Diphtheria, 4 ; Typhoid Fever, 1 ; Membranous Croup, 1 ; Erysipelas, 3. Special Report on the Scarlet Fever cases, most of which occurred at Moseley and King’s Heath, eight cases occurred at a private school at the former place, and the school was closed. Attention was drawn to mild

cases of Scarlet Fever going about undetected. Two cases of exposure were dealt with before the Magistrates, and the parents fined. An outbreak of Measles at Wythall occurred, schools closed, also at Selly Oak. Report on Gipsy Encampment at Stirchley Street, also two Insanitary Roads at the same place. Hospital cases—18 cases of Scarlet Fever admitted, one being from Bromsgrove, 12 discharged cured, leaving 47 under treatment. An Ashphate Play-ground and covered Sheds for the children to play in recommended.

IN APRIL.—Birth-rate 28·95, Death-rate 11·4, Zymotic Death-rate 1·1. Notifications 16: Scarlet Fever, 11; Diphtheria, 3; Membranous Croup, 1; Puerperal Fever, 1. Schools re-opened. Special inspection in company with Mr. Fosbroke, County Medical Officer, Mr. Ayres, C.E., Mr. Godfrey, C.E., and Mr. Houghton, Sanitary Inspector, was made of the sanitary condition of the house known as Daylesford, in Wake Green Road, Moseley, in consequence of a complaint and threatened action at Law for causing the illness and death of Mr. Smith, the occupier, from poisoning by sewer gas, from the alleged wrongful connection of a ventilating shaft to a chimney stack of such house. Hospital cases—Scarlet Fever, 10 admitted, 30 discharged cured, leaving 27 under treatment. Special Report on Hospital accommodation, more particularly for cases of Small Pox, in consequence of the epidemic of that disease at Gloucester.

IN MAY.—Birth-rate 29·51, Death-rate 10·42, Zymotic Death-rate, nil. Notifications 24: Scarlet Fever, 19; Erysipelas, 5. Report on Defective Sewer in High Street, Selly Oak. Further Report on Hospital, as regards accommodation for the Nursing Staff, and also provision of a Porter's Lodge. Hospital cases—15 fresh cases of Scarlet Fever admitted, 17 discharged cured, leaving 35 under treatment.

IN JUNE.—Birth-rate 23·32, Death-rate 6·85, Zymotic Death-rate 1·52. Notifications 33: Scarlet Fever, 27 cases; Diphtheria, 6. Special mention of the Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria cases. The disease known as German Measles prevalent. Special conference and inspection of Sewer in Lottie Road and High Street, Selly Oak. Special Report on Property in King's Norton, with a view to the house connections with your new Sewer in King's Norton being

made. Hospital cases—24 cases of Scarlet Fever admitted, 10 discharged cured, one death occurred, and 48 remain under treatment.

IN JULY.—Birth-rate 30·85, Death-rate 10·66, Zymotic Death-rate 1·14. Notifications 36: Scarlet Fever, 24; Diphtheria, 8; Typhoid Fever, 2; Erysipelas, 2. Special mention was made of complaints of the offensive state of the sewers at Northfield, and on inspection there was ground for such complaints, and frequent flushing was recommended. Hospital report—21 fresh cases of Scarlet Fever admitted, 22 discharged, leaving 43 under treatment. I met the Hospital Sub-Committee and conferred with them on certain necessary things to be done, including the heating of the two small wards in the isolation block, and a stretcher for carrying patients.

IN AUGUST.—Birth-rate 24·07, Death-rate 13·30, Zymotic Death-rate 1·9. Notifications 41, against 36 for last month, as follows: Scarlet Fever, 34; Diphtheria, 4; Erysipelas, 3. One death from Scarlet Fever occurred at your Hospital, and two deaths from Diphtheria at Northfield, as regards the latter disease, a special Report was made as to the Sanitary Condition of the Village of Northfield, and as a result the schools were fumigated by your Sanitary Inspector, and systematic and frequent flushing of the sewers, in the above mentioned village, was advised, with the addition of a Disinfectant to the water used for flushing. I further recommended that your Surveyor should be instructed to prepare a report on the Sewers of the Village, and submit to you, with a view to any structural defects, if found, being rectified. Mention was also made as to the best means of sewer ventilation, &c. Hospital report—33 cases of Scarlet Fever admitted, 15 discharged cured; one died, leaving 61 under treatment

IN SEPTEMBER.—Birth-rate 31·70, Death-rate 13·71, Zymotic Death-rate 2·3. Notifications 27, against 41 for last month, as follows: Scarlet Fever, 23 cases; Diphtheria, 2; Erysipelas, 2. Special report made on a case of Diphtheria at Moseley, also a case of Typhoid Fever at Bournbrook, which ended fatally, and which was attributed to the defective state of the drains in the locality, an action was also threatened, I was able to prove the death had no connection with the drains, so the matter ended. A further Report on Northfield

Sewers was also made Hospital report—40 cases of Scarlet Fever were admitted, 44 discharged cured, two deaths occurred, leaving 52 under treatment.

IN OCTOBER.—Birth-rate 41·52, Death-rate 14·75, Zymotic Death-rate 1·52. Notifications 28, as compared with 31 for last month, as follows: Scarlet Fever, 25; Erysipelas, 3. As regards the cases of Scarlet Fever, special mention was made of a case of exposure, while suffering from the disease, on the part of a servant girl from Moseley. Hospital cases—20 fresh cases of Scarlet Fever admitted, 31 discharged cured, one death took place, leaving 40 under treatment.

IN NOVEMBER.—Birth-rate 31·23, Death-rate 19·42, Zymotic Death-rate 1·14. Notifications 34, as compared with 28 for last month, as follows: Scarlet Fever, 20; Diphtheria, 8; Erysipelas, 4; Puerperal Fever, 2. Mention was specially made of the prevalence of Diphtheria at Selly Oak and Northfield. Special inspection of Northfield sewers, also of White and Pike's works, in reference to the pollution of the River Rea; also special inspection of houses at King's Heath and Stirchley Street, with a view to action under the Housing of the Working Classes Act. Hospital cases—18 Scarlet Fever cases admitted, 3 being outside your district, 26 discharged cured, leaving 44 in the Hospital.

IN DECEMBER —Birth-rate 30·88, Death-rate 11·44, Zymotic Death-rate 1·52. Notifications 46, as compared with 34 for last month, as follows: Scarlet Fever, 30; Diphtheria, 9; Typhoid Fever, 1. As regards the increase in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria, special mention was made of the mode by which these diseases were spread through the medium of the public schools. An outbreak of Whooping Cough at Beoley was reported upon, and the schools closed. Hospital cases—24 fresh Scarlet Fever cases admitted, 19 discharged cured, leaving 49 under treatment. A special Report was also made respecting Mr. Walter Cole's complaint, having reference to the illness of his child and its connection with the insanitary state of the sewers at Northfield.

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACT.

I have made one representation to you respecting a block of property at King's Heath.

This property is old, insanitary and dilapidated, but not absolutely beyond repair.

This case was afterwards decided to be dealt with under the Nuisance Clauses of the Public Health Act.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

Supervision is being kept over the Workshops, in your district, by your Sanitary Inspectors.

SANITARY STATE OF THE DISTRICT.

Continued advance in the Sanitary condition of your district is being made, and the year under notice will rank most favourably with others in this respect.

I mentioned in my last Report, the very great importance of having the house connections of King's Norton Village completed as soon as possible, and that a uniform plan should be adopted in all house drains, and moreover that they should be thoroughly tested and made water-tight before being connected. I also advised the abolition of all privies in this village, and the substitution of some kind of water-closet in their stead. I am sorry to say this work has gone on very slowly, and a considerable number of houses remain unconnected with the Sewer. I consider this a matter of great importance, and the work should be pushed forward as rapidly as possible, you have, at considerable expense, made your sewers, and they remain useless to a very great extent. I have no doubt your new Surveyor will push this matter forward.

In consequence of the prevalence of Diphtheria in the Village of Northfield, my attention has been called to the state of the sewers there, as many complaints were constantly being made in the public press and otherwise of the offensive smells emitted from the man-holes, I made a thorough inspection of the entire sewer system, in company with your Surveyor and Assistant Surveyor. I found the sewer defective in two or three places, and allowed deposit to take place. I made a special report to you on the matter. I recommended frequent flushing and the use of a disinfectant, and pointed out that some structural alterations were necessary.

In connection with this subject, the disposal of the sewage from West Heath has come to the front, this part of your district is becoming much more populated during the past few years, and up to the present there

is no provision in the way of drainage whatever, the slops from the houses simply run into the nearest ditch, and is allowed to lie there for long periods, these nuisances are now becoming serious, and form the subject of frequent complaints.

I have brought this matter before you, and your Surveyor has submitted a scheme for dealing with this part of the district, and also take the drainage from your Fever Hospital, which Institution is up to the present time very badly off in this respect. It is proposed that this part of your district, in conjunction with Northfield, shall be taken on to your Lifford sewage works. If this is carried out during the ensuing year a very great sanitary improvement will be effected.

I have again to mention the subject of Ash-pits and Privies, as bearing on the Sanitary condition of your district. During the year steady progress has been made in improving the district in this respect, a good many have been abolished and water-closets substituted, while others have been rendered more sanitary.

In those parts of your Authority where sewers have been laid down, the conversion of these receptacles into water-closets should be insisted upon, more particularly in connection with public schools. As I have before mentioned in my Report, they are abominable contrivances, and are always more or less offensive, and in my opinion are a constant source of danger to the community. I have also stated that a very serious public nuisance is caused when they are emptied, as the offensive "stuff" is wheeled on to the roadway, and during this process the atmosphere is simply pestilential for a considerable distance.

You will find, on referring to the Reports of the Sanitary Inspectors, the work done in this respect.

I hope the time is not far distant when we shall have abolished them altogether, at any rate for the more populous parts of your district.

I am not unmindful of the value of "dry conservancy," but to make it work satisfactory it must be thoroughly done and faithfully and continuously carried out.

The construction of dwellings, more particularly of the artisan class, is going on at a very rapid rate, and to a very large extent by the speculative builder, and it is needless to say, too much expense and labour is not bestowed upon them. They are simply built to sell, and the Bye-Laws, in

this respect, are only just complied with. I hope you will continue to keep your Bye-Laws as stringent as possible. I know that a very sharp look out by your Surveyor's Department has been going on during the year, and I am pleased to note an improvement in the buildings, but they fall far short of what we could desire for the future sanitation, comfort and health of the people.

I hope the Council will endeavour to stop the practice of building small bedrooms at the back of the houses, in some cases only 9×6 ft., and no fireplace. I would not allow any room less than 9×9 ft., and in all cases a fireplace should be insisted upon.

While on the subject of buildings, it gives me very great pleasure to mention the great scheme of Mr. George Cadbury. This gentleman has conceived the idea of constructing a "model village" in the neighbourhood of his cocoa works. It is intended that some hundreds of houses shall be erected on a model plan. The houses are for the most part intended for his workpeople, and the mode of construction is in pairs, and may be considered two semi-detached villas, each being supplied with bath-room and all other necessary offices. A certain quantity of land is allotted to each house, and an air space is provided between the different blocks of building. I may say the scheme is a remarkable one, and I consider myself fortunate, as Medical Officer of Health, in having such a model of sanitation erected in my district. The great point in connection with the dwellings is the facility with which you can secure light and air in them.

I have made an inspection of several of the houses and I am quite pleased with the general arrangements, but more particularly of the staircase, landing and pantry. I should like to say more about them but space will not permit.

As regards the question of Water Supply, the water of the Corporation of the City of Birmingham continues to be laid on to most new buildings. Polluted wells are condemned, and either remedied or the above supply put on. The results of the analysis of the well waters during the year will be found in the Table appended to this Report.

As regards the question of Night-soil Removal, the present mode of disposal is not what could be desired, I hope the time is not far distant when you will erect a "Destructor," and so deal with it by that means.

PUBLIC CEMETERIES.

The rapidly increasing population of your district, and the various Burial Grounds in the Parishes of King's Norton and Northfield being no longer adequate to the requirements, and some of them incapable of receiving any more bodies. I made a representation to you, that it was necessary that you should provide proper accommodation in this respect.

You at once took the matter in hand and provided a site at Lodge Hill, Selly Oak, for the parish of Northfield, which you laid out with every possible requirement, and opened it for general use some year and half since. The site is an admirable one in every way, and consists of some twenty-five acres, with power to extend if needed; and as it is capable of being used for burials outside your district, and is being so used. I think it will be found to serve a double purpose, viz. : a sanitary provision, and a relief to the ratepayers of the district.

A second site of some thirty-three acres has also been provided for the Parish of King's Norton, at Brandwood End. The work connected with it is not however yet completed, but is being put forward, and when finished will provide ample accommodation for your district, and outside cases, for many years to come.

Under this head I feel it my duty to congratulate the Council on the comprehensive nature of these undertakings, and their determination to bring them to a successful issue, both as regards the selection of the sites and the acquisition of the land.

POLLUTION OF THE RIVER REA.

This very important subject has occupied my mind very largely during the past year. The condition of this stream has been very bad at times, particularly in dry and hot weather.

I have had to report on this matter from time to time, for many years, and much time and thought has been given to it, and many improvements effected, with a view of improving its condition. So far as your district is concerned, many of the sources of pollution that formerly existed from house drainage, have been remedied, and the whole of the pollution on this head will soon be put at an end, by having it all conveyed into your sewers, and dealt with at your sewage works at Lifford.

From my experience of this subject, I have long formed the opinion that the offensive state of the stream is mainly due to the effluents

passed into it from the works in the neighbourhood of it. I think the amount of sewage matter from the district generally has had very little effect upon it, as the amount is very small, while that from the manufactories is very large indeed.

This subject will continue to occupy your serious consideration, and I am fully aware that you are alive to its great importance, and also that you are prepared to do all you possibly can to deal with it as far as practicable.

It must be remembered that the stream in question is a very small one, and cannot get larger, while year by year additional manufactories continue to crop up on its borders—one additional works has been erected during the year, and is now in full swing, giving employment to many hundreds of hands, at Long Bridge, and the stream receives the effluent from it, and one hears talk of others coming.

The condition of the bed of the stream is very foul, as a considerable deposit has been going on for years, and at the present time some considerable depth of mud exists, and the stream being of a tortuous nature and the flow of water slow, this will go on increasing; the consequence being a constant decomposition of this mud is going on, varying in intensity with the heat of the weather, and is continually charging the water of the stream with offensive gases.

While I consider it incumbent on all manufacturers to purify the waste water from their works, in accordance with the Rivers' Pollution Act, I think the stream itself should receive some attention in the shape of cleansing its bed. This matter should be taken into your serious consideration.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

I have not received any complaints during the year, except the pollution of the River Rea, and the nuisance arising from the non-consumption of smoke from the various works.

WATER SUPPLY.

I have analysed 32 samples of well water, with the following results: 14 were fair, 17 bad and unfit for drinking purposes. Details will be found in table appended.

HOSPITAL REPORT.

During the year 288 cases have been admitted and treated against 147 for 1895, as follows. All the cases were scarlet fever, no small pox

having occurred during the year, while 11 of the cases of scarlet fever belonged to outside districts, viz:— Bromsgrove 6, Billesley Common 2, Birmingham 2 Of the cases admitted, only four deaths occurred, representing the very low percentage of deaths at 1·4 as compared with 3·8 for last year. I consider this a most gratifying result for your Hospital, and one that we may all feel justly proud I may say that the cases in which death occurred were of the most malignant character, and there was no chance of recovery from the first.

The particulars of the cases admitted will be found in the following table.

WEST HEATH HOSPITAL RETURNS.— 1896.

Outside Districts.

1896.	Diseases	Hospital.	Selly Oak.	Selly Park.	Stirchley Street.	Moseley.	King's Heath.	Tenacres.	King's Norton.	Northfield.	West Heath.	Woodgate	Rednal.	Beoley.	Bartley Green.	Birmingham.	Bromsgrove,	Billesley Common			TOTAL
Jan.	Scarlatina	...	6	...	...	5	12	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
	Variola	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Feb.	Scarlatina	...	1	...	1	11	6	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
	Variola	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mar.	Scarlatina	2	...	...	...	2	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	11
	Variola	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
April.	Scarlatina	1	6	...	3	1	7	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	22
	Variola	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
May.	Scarlatina	...	11	...	8	...	3	1	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	28
	Variola	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
June.	Scarlatina	...	2	2	7	1	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	18
	Variola	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
July.	Scarlatina	...	4	7	4	1	6	7	5	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	38
	Variola	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Aug.	Scarlatina	...	7	8	6	...	6	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	30
	Variola	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sep.	Scarlatina	...	8	...	5	1	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
	Variola	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Oct.	Scarlatina	...	5	1	2	3	5	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	21
	Variola	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nov.	Scarlatina	...	6	3	3	1	6	1	5	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	2	...	...	...	30
	Variola	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dec.	Scarlatina	...	12	...	3	4	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
	Variola	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total for 1896.	Scarlatina	3	68	21	42	30	61	15	14	13	2	2	3	1	2	2	7	2	...	...	288
	Variola	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Total Treated in Hospital=288 } Scarlatina, 288
 } Variola, ...

In reference to the work of the Hospital it is most satisfactory to note that so large a number of the cases reported, are admitted.

I have for many years spent much time and labour in educating parents on the advantages of isolation in a hospital, and I am pleased to be able to record such good results in this report. There is no doubt that but for the provision of your Hospital, hundreds more cases would occur, and many deaths ensue. We have had good evidence of this from the records in my reports before we had a hospital.

As regards Isolation Hospitals generally, an act has been passed which enables County Councils to provide them for those parts of the county needing them, more particularly when application is made to them. I hope ere long we shall see these valuable institutions provided all through the country, and at the same time made as useful and beneficial as we have proved ours.

In connection with all Isolation Hospitals, a Sanatorium should be erected for the reception of all cases ready to be discharged, before they are allowed to return home, as there is always a certain amount of risk when patients are sent home direct from an infectious hospital. This is proved to be so by an occasional return case occurring.

I have had to further point out to you that the accommodation for the treatment of small pox cases was inadequate, and you have now made ample provision by erecting a very suitable wood and corrugated iron-building, which I consider will meet all your requirements in this respect for some years to come.

You have also provided an additional Wing to your administrative block for the accommodation of the nurses, by which means 8 more bedrooms, and a good large dining-room is available for their use; this is a much needed and satisfactory addition.

You have also provided a Porter's Lodge, and additional bath-rooms for the more safe use of the patients, are about to be added, when this is all completed, your Hospital will be one of the most "unique" buildings of its kind, and one that any Council may well be proud of.

SANITARY WORK.

The work in the health department has gone on satisfactorily, and much good work has been done as will be seen from the various reports appended.

I am also pleased to say that the Sanitary Inspectors continue to perform their duties satisfactorily.

SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT.

You will observe from this report that plans for 1399 houses have been passed, in addition to new roads and alterations, &c.

In concluding this my twenty-fourth Annual Report, I must again congratulate the Council on the splendid record of work accomplished during the year.

I also beg to thank the Council for the courtesy and co-operation accorded me in the discharge of my duties.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

FRANCIS HOLLINSHEAD, M.D.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

DEATHS REGISTERED FROM ALL CAUSES DURING THE YEAR 1896.

A G E S.

5.—DISEASES OF DIGESTIVE SYSTEM.	0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 to 75	75 to 85	85 and upwards.	Totals.	1 to 100
Dentition	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
Sore Throat, Quinsy	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Diseases of Stomach	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Enteritis	1	2	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	4
Obstructive Diseases of Intestine	1	...	...	...	1	1	1
Peritonitis	1	...	1	1	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	5	2
Ascites
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	3	4	1	1	6	6
Jaundice and other Diseases of Liver	1	...	...	1	...	2	...
Other Diseases of Digestive System	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
6.—DISEASES OF LYMPHATIC SYSTEM. (e.g., of Lymphatics and of Spleen)	5	6	1	1	2	3	...	2	4	6	2	1	1
7.—DISEASES OF GLAND-LIKE ORGANS OF UNCERTAIN USE. (e.g., Bronchoecle, Addison's Disease)
8.—DISEASES OF URINARY SYSTEM. Nephritis	2	1	2	...	4	1
Bright's Disease, Albuminuria	1	...	1	1	1	2	...	5	3
Disease of Bladder or of Prostate	1	1	1	...	...	...
Other Diseases of the Urinary System	1	1	1	4	6	1
9.—DISEASES OF REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM. A. Of Organs of Generation. Male Organs	1	...	1	1	4	2	4	2	5
Female Organs	16	5
B. Of Parturition. Abortion, Miscarriage	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Puerperal Convulsions	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Placenta prævia, Flooding
Other Accidents of Child Birth...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
10.—DISEASES OF BONES AND JOINTS. Caries, Necrosis	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
Arthritis, Ostitis, Periostitis	1	...	...	...	1	1
Other Diseases of Bones and Joints	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
11.—DISEASES OF INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM. Carbuncle, Phlegmon
Other Diseases of Integumentary System
VII.—Deaths from Violence. 1.—ACCIDENT OR NEGLIGENCE. Fractures and Contusions	20	13	9	11	6	7	8	7	9	6	11	11	19
Gunshot Wounds	1	...	...	...	1	2	...	1	...	5
Cut, Stab
Burn, Scald	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Poison
Drowning	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Suffocation	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Otherwise	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
2.—HOMICIDE. Manslaughter	1	2	...	2	...	2	1	1	2	...	1	...	9
Murder
3.—SUICIDE. Gunshot Wounds
Cut, Stab
Poison
Drowning	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
Hanging	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Otherwise
4.—EXECUTION. Hanging	1	2	...	2	...	1	2	1	1	2	...	1	...
VIII.—Deaths from Ill-defined and not Specified Causes. Droopy	29	23	3	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32	23
Debility, Atrophy, Inanition	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Mortification
Tumour	1	...	1	...	...	2	1
Abscess	1	...	...	1	1
Hæmorrhage	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	1
Sudden Death (cause not ascertained)	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Causes not Specified or Ill-defined
	29	23	3	6	...	...	1	1	1	...	2	1	...

	No. of Deaths.	No. of Deaths.
I.—Specific Febrile, or Zymotic Diseases.		
1. Miasmatic Diseases	44	
1a. Influenza	1	
2. Diarrhæal „ ... ..	...
3. Malarial „ ... ..	...
4. Zoonogenic „ ... ..	...
5. Venereal „ ... ..	...
6. Septic „	5	
II.—Parasitic Diseases. ... ..	...
III.—Dietic Diseases. ... ..	...
IV.—Constitutional Diseases.	90	
V.—Developmental Diseases.	73	
VI.—Local Diseases.		
1. Diseases of Nervous System	44	
2. Diseases of Organs of Special Sense ... ..	...
3. Diseases of Circulatory System	50	
4. Diseases of Respiratory System	87	
<i>Carried forward</i>	394	
VII.—Local Diseases—continued		
5. Diseases of Digestive System	38	
6. Diseases of Lymphatic System ... ..	...
7. Diseases of Gland-like Organs of Uncertain Use ... ..	...
8. Diseases of Urinary Organs	20	
9. Diseases of Reproductive System ... ..	...
(a). Diseases of Organs of Generation	2	
(b). Diseases of Parturition	3	
10. Diseases of Bones and Joints	3	
11. Diseases of Integumentary System ... ..	...
VII.—Violence.		
1. Accident or Negligence	12	
2. Homicide ... ..	...
3. Suicide	2	
4. Execution ... ..	...
VIII.—Ill-defined and not Specified Causes	67	
TOTAL	541	

TABLE I.
ANNUAL REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1896.

THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF KING'S NORTON.

Area in acres	...	21,636.	Population, 1881	...	19,376.
			" 1891	...	28,300.
			Increase 1881-91	...	8,924.
			Estimated Population, 1896	...	38,117.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FRANCIS HOLLINSHEAD, M.D.

MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES.

Smallpox.	...	Measles	7	Scarlatina.	5	Diphtheria.	16	Croup (not "spasmodic").	1	Whooping Cough.	13	CONTINUED FEVERS.			Typhus.	...	Enteric or Typhoid.	3	Other or Doubtful.	...	Diarrhoea and Dysentery.	...	Cholera.	...	Rheumatic Fever.	3	Erysipelas.	1	Pyæmia.	...	2	Puerperal Fever.	...	Ague.	...	Cancer.	16	44	35	46	Heart Disease.	49	14	Injuries.	...	Other Diseases.	302
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REGISTERED BIRTHS.			REGISTERED DEATHS.			MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES AT SUBJOINED AGES.					
Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
539	492	1031	277	264	541	122	56	29	28	177	129

(A)

TABLE VII.

TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1896, in the Rural District Council of KING'S NORTON, classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities.	MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES, AT SUBJOINED AGES.							MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.																							
	At all ages.	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards.	(f)	Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	FEVERS.						Cholera.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhea and Dysentery.	Rheumatic Fever.	Phthisis.	Epidemic, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	*	Injuries.	All Other Diseases.	TOTAL.
													Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.	10													
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
NORTHFIELD PARISH	162	57	26	14	11	38	16	Under 5 5 npwds.	6 3	3	3	12	18 11	1 7	52 38	83 79
KING'S NORTON PARISH.....	246	59	26	11	12	78	60	Under 5 5 npwds.	...	...	1 6	1 ...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	4	8	...	3	12	18 19	...	...	3 7	50 91	85 161
BEOLEY PARISH	9	3	...	...	..	2	4	Under 5 5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2 1	3 6
KING'S NORTON UNION WORKHOUSE	81	3	2	...	2	33	41	Under 5 5 npwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	9	14	9	...	4	5 76
RUBERY HILL ASYLUM.....	30	...	...	...	1	23	6	Under 5 5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	9	...	...	14	...
ST. PAUL'S CONVENT.....	6	...	...	..	1	3	2	Under 5 5 npwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	3	...
WEST HEATH FEVER HOSPITAL (Rural District Council of King's Norton)	4	...	2	1	1	...	..	Under 5 5 npwds.	...	2 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 2
MOSELEY HALL CONVALESCENT HOME	3	...	...	3	...	...	...	Under 5 5 npwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	3
								Under 5 5 npwds.																							
								Under 5 5 npwds.																							
TOTALS...	541	122	56	29	28	177	129	Under 5 5 npwds.	...	2 3	7 9	1	3	2	...	1	...	7	13	...	3	...	36 45	1 48	...	3 41	108 194	178 363
The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.																															
Deaths occurring outside the district among persons belonging thereto	Under 5 5 upwds.
Deaths occurring within the district among persons not belonging thereto	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Under 5 5 upwds.	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	16	10	45	...	...	1 45	2 87

The heading of column 19 is left blank for the insertion of Influenza, or any other disease which it may be thought desirable to record.

Mortality per 1,000 of Population living during same period.

Birth Rate 27·04	Death Rate 11·51	(a) Zymotic Death Rate 1·1	(b) Inf. Mortal 118.	Phthisis Death Rate 1·15
Resp. Death Rate 2·12	Smallpox Death Rate, 0·0	Measles Death Rate 0·18	Scarlatina Death Rate 0·13	
Diphtheria Death Rate 0·41	Whooping Cough Death Rate 0·34	(c) Fever Death Rate 0·07	Diarrhoea Death Rate 0·0	
Cancer Death Rate 0·47				

(a) Includes Smallpox, Measles, Scarlatina, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Fever and Diarrhoea.
 (b) Estimated by measuring the proportion of deaths of infants under 1 year per 1,000 of the births registered during the same period.
 (c) Including Typhus, Enteric Fever, and indefinite forms of continued Fever.

	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Group.	Typhoid Fever.	Erysipelas.	Puerperal Fever
Cases	250	306	59	3	6	34	4
Deaths	7	5	16	1	3	1	2
Hospital Cases*	288	...	...	...	...	...
Deaths	4	...	...	...	...	...

*Eleven cases admitted from outside district.

Diseases prevalent—Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Measles and Whooping Cough. Period—January, February, March, April, May, June, July, October, November and December.
 Schools closed—January, February, March and December.
 Measles not notified, but cases recorded came to my knowledge.

TABLE IA.

Showing the Population, Inhabited Houses, Marriages, Births and Deaths for the Year 1896, and 10 years preceding.

GROSS NUMBERS.

The Year.	Population.	No. of Inhabited Houses.	Marriages.	Registered Births.	Corrected No. of Deaths.			Deaths in Public Institutions.
					Total All Ages.	Under One Year.	Under Five Years	
1896	38,117	9,919	259	1,031	541	122	178	102
1895	34,127	8,520	172	1,010	499	107	153	120
1894	30,977	8,070	173	785	442	90	124	141
1893	29,884	7,537	151	834	537	114	141	117
1892	28,562	7,262	168	837	474	91	121	117
1891	28,300	7,009	147	735	427	81	104	107
1890	28,396	6,442	157	657	419	79	116	93
1889	26,367	6,030		642	358	57	89	102
1888	25,392	5,698		649	365	70	105	92
1887	24,453	5,386		648	380	66	104	84
1886	23,560	5,150		629	388	73	105	82
Average of 10 years, 1886-95	28,001·8	6,710·4		742·6	428·9	82·8	116·2	105·5

NOTES.

1. Population at Census, 1891.—28,300.
2. Average No. of Persons in each house at Census, 1891.—4·03.
3. Area of District in acres.—21,636.

TABLE II.

ANNUAL REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR 1896.

Systematic Inspection	Regularly carried out.
House accommodation	Quite sufficient.
Overcrowding	Four cases abated.
Drainage	Continues to be extended in various parts of the district. The village of King's Norton is now completed, also the Cotteridge.
Water supply	Provided for Bartley Green, and the Lickey 31 samples have been analysed, and tap water laid on in all cases where the supply can be obtained and the wells proved to be polluted. Water Mains continue to be extended in the district.
Excrement disposal	On canal where available to Board's tip.
Scavenging	Carried out by the District Council.
Burial Grounds and Mortuaries	Two new Burial Grounds provided, and Mortuary to be built.
Canal Boats	Sanitary Inspectors appointed.
Bakehouses	Visited and kept in order.
Slaughter-houses... ..	Inspected.
Common Lodging Houses ...	None.
Tenement Lodging Houses ..	None.
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	Surveyor appointed, and Inspectors as assistants
Offensive Trades... ..	No complaints, except as to Smoke, and pollution of River Rea.
Sale of Food and Drugs Acts ...	Twenty-three samples taken. Two condemned.
Food unfit for Human Consumption	Two cases.
Bye-Laws... ..	For new Streets and Buildings, Common Lodging Houses, Slaughter-houses, Hackney Carriages, Nuisances, Footpaths and Pavements, Scavenging, &c.
River Pollution	The River Rea ; receiving due consideration ; L. G. B. enquiry held, and Injunction obtained.
Industries	Two Paper Works, Cocoa Manufactory, Brewery, several Metal Works, small Tannery, one Enamel Works, and Cycle Components Works, and one Tin Printing.
Vans and Tents	Inspected when in district.
Fruit Pickers	None.
Dept. of Insp. of Nuisances ...	No. of Notices served—345. ,, Legal Proceedings taken—10.
Special Reports of M. O. H. during the year	Two. One on Northfield Sewers, and one on Hospital.
Vaccination Acts	Carried out as well as possible ; statistics given.
Other points	

TABLE II_A.

Table showing the Annual Birth and Death Rates, Death Rates of Children, and Proportion of Deaths in Public Institutions in a Thousand Deaths for the year 1896, and 10 Years preceding.

IN THE YEAR.	Birth Rate per 1000 of the Population.	Corrected Death Rate per 1000 of the Population.	Deaths of Children under 1 year; per 1000 of Registered Births.	Deaths of Children under 1 year; per 1000 of Total Deaths.	Deaths of Children under 5 years; per 1000 of Total Deaths.	Deaths in Public Institutions; per 1000 of Total Deaths.
1896.	27·04	11·51	118·33	225·50	326·03	188·53
1895.	29·59	12·27	105·9	214·4	306·6	240·5
1894.	25·34	10·87	114·0	203·61	280·54	319·0
1893.	27·90	15·35	136·0	212·29	263·1	217·85
1892.	30·70	12·52	108·72	192·00	257·23	246·79
1891.	25·97	12·36	110·20	189·69	243·53	250·58
1890.	23·13	12·04	120·24	188·54	253·00	221·95
1889.	24·34	10·61	88·7	159·2	270·90	284·91
1888.	25·18	10·23	107·8	194·5	295·9	252·05
1887.	26·49	12·71	101·8	173·6	221·0	221·05
1886.	26·69	13·62	116·0	188·1	270·6	211·34
Average of 10 years. 1886—1895. }	26·53	12·25	110·93	191·593	266·24	246·60

TABLE IIIA.—VITAL STATISTICS.

	Average for the Years 1887 to 1896 in- clusive.	1896.	1895.	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.	1889.	1888.	1887.
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the popu- lation	26.58	27.04	29.56	25.34	27.90	30.70	25.97	23.13	24.34	25.18	26.69
Total Death Rate per 1,000 of the population	12.04	11.51	12.27	10.87	15.35	12.52	12.36	12.04	10.61	10.23	12.71
Death Rate from the Seven Principal Zymotic Diseases per 1,000 of the population	0.79	1.1	0.8	0.6	0.97	0.7	0.77	0.73	0.7	0.55	0.94
Rate of Infant Mortality estimated by measuring the proportion of Children who died before Attaining 1 Year per 1,000 of the Births Registered during the same period	111.16	118.33	105.9	114.0	136.	108.72	110.20	120.24	88.7	107.8	101.8

TABLE IV.

Showing the Number of Deaths at all ages in 1896, from certain groups of Diseases, and proportions to 1000 population, and to 1000 Deaths from all causes; also the Number of Deaths of Infants under one year of age from other groups of Diseases, and proportions to 1000 Births and to 1000 Deaths from all causes under one year.

DIVISION I. (Adults).			Total Deaths.	Deaths per 1000 of Population, at all ages.	Deaths per 1000 of Total Deaths at all ages.
1.	Principal Zymotic Diseases ...	...	44	1·15	81·33
2.	Pulmonary Diseases ...	...	81	2·12	149·72
3.	Principal Tubercular Diseases	...	54	1·42	99·89
DIVISION II (Infants under One Year).			Total Deaths.	Deaths per 1000 of Births.	Deaths per 1000 of Total Deaths under One Year.
4.	Wasting Diseases ...	...	80	77·59	665·73
5.	Convulsive Diseases ...	...	13	12·60	106·5

The Zymotic Rate in this Table is calculated with Public Institutions

NOTICE.

- 1. Includes Small Pox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Typhus, Enteric (or Typhoid), and Simple Continued Fevers, and Diarrhœa.
- 3. Includes Phthisis, Scrofula, Tuberculosis, Rickets, and Tabes.
- 4. Includes Marasmus, Atrophy, Debility, Want of Breast Milk, and Premature Birth.
- 5. Includes Hydrocephalus, Infantile Meningitis, Convulsions, and Teething.

TABLE V.

Showing the Number of Deaths from the principal Zymotic Diseases in the 10 Years 1887 to 1896, and in the Year 1896.

Disease.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	Annual Aver- age of 10 years, 1886--1895.	Proportion of Deaths to 1000 Deaths in 10 years, 1886--1895.	Total Deaths in 1895.	Proportion of Deaths to 1000 Deaths in 1895.
Small Pox ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	4	...	...	0.5	1.18	...	0.0
Measles ...	10	1	3	3	2	...	1	9	1	7	3.7	8.62	7	12.93
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	4	6	3	1	3	2	5	5	2.9	6.76	5	9.24
Diphtheria ...	1	2	4	2	4	2	2	2	10	16	4.5	10.49	16	29.57
Whooping Cough ..	6	10	3	2	6	13	7	5	12	13	7.7	17.95	13	24.03
Fever { Typhus ... Enteric ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	5	...	4	2	1	2	4	...	...	3	2.1	4.89	...	5.5
Simple con- tinued ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Diarrhœa ...	1	1	1	...	6	2	12	1	2	...	2.6	6.06	3	...
Totals ...	23	14	19	15	23	20	29	23	30	44	24.0	55.95	44	80.77

TO THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF KING'S NORTON.

Gentlemen,

I have to report that during the year 1896, Plans were approved for New Houses, as follows :—

<i>Sets of Plans.</i>	<i>Parish of King's Norton.</i>				<i>Houses.</i>
53	Moseley	...	...	230	
107	King's Heath	...	...	402	
1	Cotteridge	...	...	12	
18	Stirchley	...	...	74	
21	King's Norton	...	...	92	810
<hr/> 200					
	<i>Parish of Northfield.</i>				
54	Bournbrook	...	...	286	
30	Bournville	...	...	71	
32	Selly Oak	...	...	203	
13	Northfield	...	...	29	589
<hr/> 129					
<hr/> 329 Sets of Plans.					
				<hr/> Total Houses	<hr/> 1399

Plans for 38 Alterations, 3 Bakehouses, 7 Factories, 2 Chapels, 14 Stables, 20 Drains, 4 Licensed Houses, 1 Chimney Shaft, 1 Laundry to Infirmary, 1 Alterations to Churches, 1 Alterations to Chapels, 14 New Roads, representing 3 miles, 1143 yards, lineal.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

JOE H. WEBB,

January, 1897.

. Assistant Surveyor.

ANNUAL REPORT OF INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES OF No. 1, OR MOSELEY DIVISION, 1896.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit report of Work done during the past year.

Prevention of Infectious Diseases	Number of cases enquired into	170
	Number of houses disinfected and cleaned ..	132
	Number of patients removed to Hospital ...	108
	Number of lots of bedding, clothing, &c. disinfected or destroyed	17
	Number of cases of neglect to notify, reported	3
Houses... ..	Number cleansed and lime-washed	12
Overcrowding	Number of cases abated	2
House Drains	Number laid or re-laid	62
	Number cleansed, trapped and ventilated ...	192
	Number of defective waste-pipes rectified ...	32
	Number of insanitary lavatories, sinks and urinals rectified	10
	Number of dumb wells rectified	1
Water-closets	Number repaired, ventilated, &c.	22
Privies and Ash-pits ...	Number converted to water closets or slop closets	98
	Number converted to pail closets	9
	Number repaired	17
Dust Receptacles (port.)	Number of new dust receptacles provided ...	98
Scavenging	Total number of houses from which refuse removed, about	4500
	Total number of privies and ash-pits cleansed	4216
	Total number of portable receptacles cleansed	52000
Smoke Nuisances ...	Number under observation	13
	Number abated	1
Water supply	Number of samples of water taken	19
	Number of wells cleansed and repaired ...	2
	Number of wells closed as polluted	10
	Number of houses supplied from waterworks during the year... ..	50
Slaughter Houses ...	Number registered or licensed	11
	Number regularly inspected	11
	Number cleansed and repaired	11
Factories & Workshops	Number under inspection	60

ANNUAL REPORT OF INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES OF No. 1,
OR MOSELEY DIVISION, 1896.—*continued.*

Dairies and Cowsheds...	Number of persons engaged in milk trade now on register and under supervision	104
Canal Boats	Number of Boats inspected (for registration or otherwise)	30
Food and Drugs' Act ...	Number of samples taken for analysis ...	13
	Number of samples certified genuine ...	13
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance ...	Number of cases of removal on notice ...	2
Offensive Accumulations	Number of Removals... ..	76
Legal Proceedings ...	Number taken	7
	Number of convictions obtained	7
Complaints	Number of complaints received and attended to	158
Clerical Work... ..	Number of official letters written	442
	Number of notices served	157
Game Dealers' Licenses	Number of game dealers' licenses issued ...	6
Petroleum Dealers' Licenses	Number of petroleum dealers' licenses issued	1
Hackney Carriages ...	Number of Hackney carriages under super- vision	39

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN HOUGHTON,

Graduate Assoc. Municipal Engineers.

Member Sanitary Institute.

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF KING'S NORTON.

No. 2 DISTRICT.

Report of Sanitary Work completed in the Year ending 31st December, 1896.

Gentlemen,—I have the honour to submit my Thirteenth Annual Report.

Number of cases of Infectious Disease enquired into	...	...	...	110
„ Houses Disinfected and Cleansed	...	...	...	81
„ Patients removed to Hospital	...	...	...	62
„ lots of Bedding, Clothing, &c. Disinfected or Destroyed	...	...	...	81
„ Houses Cleansed and Lime-washed	...	...	...	147
„ cases of overcrowding abated	...	...	...	2
„ House Drains laid or re-laid	...	...	...	59
„ House Drains cleansed, trapped and ventilated	...	...	...	173
„ defective Waste-pipes remedied	...	...	...	8
„ insanitary Lavatories, Sinks and Urinals rectified	...	...	...	5
„ Dumb-wells rectified	...	...	...	1
„ additional Water Closets provided	...	...	...	2
„ Water Closets repaired, ventilated, and supplied with flush-cisterns	...	...	...	90
„ additional Privies and Ash-pits provided	...	...	...	5
„ Privies converted into Water-closets or Slop-closets	...	...	...	27
„ Privies converted into Pail-closets	...	...	...	1
„ Privies and Ash-pits repaired	...	...	...	71
„ new portable Dust Receptacles provided	...	...	...	39
„ houses from which refuse removable	...	...	...	2400
„ Privies and Ash-pits Cleansed	...	...	...	2685
„ Portable Receptacles Cleansed	...	...	...	24728
„ Loads of Ashes and Excrement removed	...	...	...	2240
„ Loads of Ashes and Refuse removed	...	...	...	1533
„ Smoke Nuisances under observation	...	...	...	6
„ Wells cleansed and repaired	...	...	...	5
„ Wells closed as polluted	...	...	...	2
„ houses supplied from Water-works during the year	...	...	...	29
„ Slaughter-houses registered or licensed	...	...	...	14
„ Slaughter-houses regularly inspected	...	...	...	14
„ Slaughter-houses cleansed and repaired	...	...	...	14
„ Factories under inspection	...	...	...	24
„ Factories certified for lime-washing by Inspector	...	...	...	12
„ Persons engaged in Milk Trade, now on Register	...	...	...	69
„ contraventions of Dairies, Cow-sheds and Milk-shops' Orders dealt with	...	...	...	6
„ Canal Boats inspected	...	...	...	41
„ contraventions of Canal Boats' Acts dealt with	...	...	...	4
„ seizures of Food as unfit for consumption	...	...	...	2
„ samples of Food taken for analysis	...	...	...	10
„ samples of Food certified genuine	...	...	...	8
„ samples of Food certified adulterated	...	...	...	2
„ cases of Animals kept so as to be a nuisance, removed on notice	...	...	...	7
„ removals of accumulations of offensive refuse	...	...	...	65
„ Legal Proceedings taken	...	...	...	3
„ Convictions obtained	...	...	...	3
„ Official Letters written	...	...	...	1577
„ Notices served	...	...	...	188
„ Notices complied with	...	...	...	184
„ Notices outstanding	...	...	...	4

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

SELLY OAK,

Your obedient servant,

February, 1897.

ARTHUR T. COTTLE.

